

ALIEN EVACUATION

RADIO BROADCAST

Tom C. Clark, Speaker

SATURDAY, March 7, 1942

... I have been charged with co-ordinating the activities of the various Federal agencies concerned with alien enemies.

The United States has now been at war for approximately three months. During this time the Federal government, first through the Attorney General and later through the Secretary of War, has put into effect certain rules designed to safeguard the country, and to protect it against our enemies. Last Tuesday General DeWitt announced more drastic restrictions which must be placed upon those people affected now living in Arizona, Oregon, Washington and California.

... Most of you are familiar with the limits of the two military areas designated last Tuesday.

Military Area No. 1 comprises roughly half of four states--the western or coastal half of California, Oregon, or Washington, and the southern half of Arizona.

Military Area No. 2 covers the remaining portions of these four states--the eastern half of Washington, Oregon, or California, and the northern half of Arizona.

In addition, Military Area no. 1 itself is divided into two zones:

A Zone, or Prohibited

B Zone, or Restricted

The Prohibited Zone consists of roughly 3200 miles wide which includes many of the coastal cities, such as Seattle, San Francisco, Los Angeles, etc.

The Restricted Zone is the remainder of Military Area No. 1, and lies between Prohibited Zone and Military Area No. 2.

There are some 98 smaller prohibited zones covering air fields, power plants, etc., throughout Military Area No. 2.

It is most important to keep in mind the three wide parallel bands of territory extending from Canada to Mexico. Remember them in that order: first, Prohibited Zone, second, Restricted Zone, and third, Military Area No. 2. In designating these areas, the Military Commander may order the exclusion of such people whose continued presence therein is regarded as dangerous to the security of our country. He did not order any evacuation or set any deadline.

At the same time, General DeWitt did announce new regulations for enemy

aliens, any Japanese, German or Italian aliens, or any person of Japanese ancestry. Hereafter, any Japanese, German, or Italian alien, or any person of Japanese ancestry living within the two designated areas must register in advance at the nearest post office before changing his place of residence. In this connection, I want to caution that all aliens of enemy nationalities are still required to obtain travel permits from the United States Attorney before they move their place of residence.

Two classes of persons will be the first required to move from certain critical points: Japanese aliens, and citizens of Japanese ancestry. No deadline has been set and no further definition of certain critical points was made at the time. The most critical area to be affected for these classes is Military Area No. 1.

... I, therefore, urge the Japanese when moving to take into consideration the limits of Military Area No. 1 when making their plans to move. In other words, those living in Military Area No. 1 can save unnecessary trouble by moving at least beyond the confines of this military area and also outside of the smaller prohibited zones in Military Area No. 2. In this connection, let me give you warning that care should be taken not to move within one mile of an air field, power plants, etc., which by its nature may have special importance in National Defense, and which may be later designated as restricted.

... So called mass evacuations are to be avoided. ... No alien or citizen because of any military regulation will be left homeless, hungry or destitute, if he does his part. Those who have the means to move will be to his advantage to do so.

... Another point is the setting up of a machinery to handle efficiently, fairly, and honestly, the properties of persons obliged to leave the military areas ... The Federal authorities will not permit exploitation. We have drawn on the United States Treasury Department, and protection will be given to all types of property. The owner will have positive assurance of the United States Government that he will get a "square deal".

One of the objectives of the United States is to maintain the high standards and principles of our "way of life". We must win this war, and all Americans and also non-citizens must be prepared to make sacrifices in order to safeguard at home the freedom ...